

jungles in paris family days

Enter the dream world of French artist Henri Rousseau. Journey through the imaginary jungles: search for tigers, monkeys, snakes, and flamingos; explore exotic plants. Stroll through the parks of Paris and visit enchanted forests. And during your adventure at the National Gallery of Art, become an artist yourself.

Friday, July 28
Saturday, July 29
Friday, August 11
Saturday, August 12

East Building
Ages 4 and up

Family Days offer a variety of activities for children and adults to enjoy together.

There is no advance registration for these programs; participation in each of the day's activities is on a first-come, first-served basis.

All activities are free, unless otherwise noted. For more information about the Family Days, call (202) 842-6254.

The East Building of the National Gallery of Art is located on Constitution Avenue at Fourth Street NW.

Explore the Exhibition

Family Activity Sheets

Fridays and Saturdays | 10:00 – 5:00
Available at the information table,
East Building, Ground Level | ages 4 and up

Pick up a family activity sheet and “hunt” for animals, plants, and interesting details in Rousseau’s paintings.



Henri Rousseau, *Tiger in a Tropical Storm (Surprised!)* (detail), 1891, oil on canvas, The National Gallery, London

Children’s Audio Tour

Fridays and Saturdays | 10:00 – 5:00
Available at the exhibition entrance,
East Building Mezzanine | ages 7 to 12

Hear sounds from the tropical jungle while learning more about Rousseau’s paintings. Available July 16 through October 15 in conjunction with the exhibition *Henri Rousseau: Jungles in Paris*, this audio tour can be rented from the Acoustiguide desk located on the East Building Mezzanine for \$3.00. Adult audio tours are available for \$5.00.

Face Painters

Fridays and Saturdays | 11:00 – 3:00
Exhibition exit, East Building, Upper Level
ages 4 and up

After you have toured the exhibition, stop and have your face painted as a souvenir of your journey.



Henri Rousseau, *Tropical Forest with Monkeys* (detail), 1910, oil on canvas, National Gallery of Art, Washington, John Hay Whitney Collection

Use Your Imagination

Dream up Your Own Jungle

Fridays and Saturdays | 10:00 – 5:00
East Building, Ground Floor | ages 4 and up

Rousseau never traveled outside of France—he created wild jungles all from his imagination. Using paper, tissue, and oil pastels, create your own imaginary jungle scene.

Sketch Exotic Plants

Fridays and Saturdays | 10:00 – 5:00
East Building, Ground Level | ages 4 and up

Rousseau regularly visited Paris’s botanical gardens and greenhouses to sketch flowers from faraway places. Stop by the sketching cart to pick up drawing paper and pencils. Then study the Gallery’s plant display and make your own drawings.

Enjoy Films

Dropping in on Rousseau

Fridays and Saturdays | 10:30, 11:30, 12:30, 1:30, and 2:30 | East Building Small Auditorium | ages 4 and up

This animated film follows the clumsy Puffer, a bird working as a reporter, as he flies into early twentieth-century Paris to meet artist Henri Rousseau. Puffer uncovers many surprises during his conversation with Rousseau about painting! (Crystal Productions, 26 minutes)

Henri Rousseau: Jungles in Paris

Fridays and Saturdays, 11:00, 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, and 3:00 | East Building Small Auditorium | ages 10 and up

This film considers Rousseau’s jungle paintings as part of the French fascination with the exotic during that nation’s colonial expansion in the later nineteenth century. Featuring archival as well as new footage, the film shows Rousseau’s Parisian “jungles”: the parks, zoos, and greenhouses that fueled his imagination. (National Gallery of Art, 30 minutes)

Magical Méliès

Fridays and Saturdays, 11:00 and 1:00
East Building Auditorium | ages 6 and up

Legendary film pioneer Georges Méliès made more than 500 short films in France between 1898 and 1908.

As producer, director, actor, and designer, Méliès used the magic of film to create fantasy worlds. A selection of his silent films from the Library of Congress archives, including *A Trip to the Moon* and *The Magic Lantern*, will be shown with live piano accompaniment. (Approximately 30 minutes)

An American in Paris

Fridays, 2:30
East Building Auditorium | ages 10 and up

This musical romance stars Gene Kelly as a struggling young painter who finds love on the Left Bank of the Seine. The film’s climactic ballet sequence features art direction inspired by French masters, including the paintings of Henri Rousseau. (Vincente Minnelli, MGM Studios, USA, 1951, 113 minutes)



Still from *An American in Paris*, scheduled to be shown on Fridays at 2:30

Learn More

Children’s Books

These books about Henri Rousseau can be found in the Children’s Shop on the Gallery’s Concourse Level or at your local library or bookstore.

Rousseau Art Activity Pack

By Mila Boutan

Hello Rousseau

By Catherine de Duve

Henri Rousseau’s Jungle Book (Adventures in Art)

By Doris Kutschbach

Henri Rousseau Tunnel Book

By Joan Sommers

Henri Rousseau

By Mike Venezia

The Rousseau Coloring Book

By Tate Gallery

Online Activity

Visit www.nga.gov/kids, the Gallery’s Web site for children and families, for the interactive Art Zone program **NGA Jungle**, inspired by the paintings of Henri Rousseau. This online activity encourages children of all ages to create an imaginary landscape inhabited by a wide array of animals. Users can mix and match colorful characters, control the environment by changing the weather and lighting conditions, or construct flowers, trees, and plants.



front and above: Henri Rousseau, *The Flamingos* (details), 1907, oil on canvas, Collection of Joan Whitney Payson

Henri Rousseau: Jungles in Paris

July 16 – October 15, 2006

The exhibition was organized by Tate Modern, London, and Réunion des musées nationaux and Musée d’Orsay, Paris, in association with the National Gallery of Art, Washington.

The exhibition is sponsored in part by the National Automobile Dealers Association.

For more information about the exhibition:
www.nga.gov/exhibitions/rousseauinfo.htm

Family and Youth Programs are made possible in part by the generosity of the Prince Charitable Trusts.

Additional support for 2006 has been provided by the Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation.

The Family Days are made possible by the generous support of Melvin Henderson-Rubio.

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National Gallery of Art | July 28–29 and August 11–12, 2006

